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Sen. Prouty Disturbs Our Dreams

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IF O U R LEGISLATORS APPEAR AT their desks a bit hollow-eyed this morning, it is because Sen. Winston L. Prouty disturbed their sleep with a speech full of harsh realities.

His address to the Vermont Legislature yesterday dealt with the world as it is—not the world as we would have it or as it might one day be if we perceive, guide the destinies of decency and freedom.

At the heart of his speech were the estimates of the Soviet military challenge furnished him by Allen W. Dulles, director of central intelligence.

These hard facts tend to counteract any tendency we might have had to fall for the peaceful professions of the enemy or to dream our way into ill-advised concessions.

JUST HOW PEACEFUL IS A RUSSIA which pours a greater proportion of [illegible] tional product into military programs than any other nation?

Might it not be a good idea to take note of a standing army of 2.5 million men equipped since World War II with the most modern guns, tanks and artillery?

CAN WE RELAX IN THE FACE OF AN enemy which claims to have intercontinental ballistic missiles in serial production and, without doubt, has an arsenal of nuclear-armed short and intermediate range missiles?

Why would the Russians want to build modern, long-range submarines and an equal number of other craft? Why would they devote only 3% per cent of their production to consumer goods and most of the remainder to the building and maintenance of a war machine?

It will be recalled that after World War II America dismantled its military machine. This nation dawdled with rockets while the Russians worked with intensity. It was only because a few level-headed scientific and political leaders persisted that America developed the hydrogen bomb in time to keep Russia from having a deadly monopoly.

KOREA AND OTHER EVENTS AWAKENED [illegible] to the fact, pointed out by Senator Prouty, that in the world of today the nation that falters in scientific development and its technological application, becomes a second rate power. Its survival is at the sufferance of the nations in the forefront.

[illegible] Senator Prouty as a distinguished servant [illegible] thanks.

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